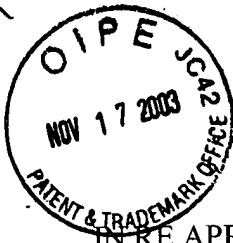


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PATENT



IN RE APPLICATION OF

FOR : Albert James Yovichin, Daniel Ray Downing,
and James Alfred Benzing, II

SERIAL NO. : 09/831,393

FILED : August 20, 2001

LAST OFFICE ACTION : March 19, 2003

EXAMINER : Knable, Geoffrey L.

GROUP ART UNIT : 1733

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : DN1998168US (30163.30197)
Akron, Ohio 44308-1471
November 11, 2003

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TC 1700

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **AMENDMENT B** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop AF, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the following date.

11-11-03

By: Debbie Johnston
Debbie M. Johnston

.....
AMENDMENT B

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop AF
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Knable:

In response to the Office Action of August 13, 2003, please amend the subject application as follows: